

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A plain old telephone service (POTS) extender for at least one conductor pair for providing packets to a packet network and receiving packets from the packet network comprising:

- a subscriber line interface circuit (SLIC) having a connection to the at least one conductor pair, said SLIC having an upstream voice signal output and a downstream voice signal input;
- a codec for converting the upstream voice signal output to an upstream digital voice signal output and converting a downstream digital voice signal input to the downstream voice signal;
- a vocoder for converting the upstream digital voice signal output to a first data stream and for converting a second data stream to the downstream digital voice signal input;
- a packet assembler and disassembler (PAD) for converting the first data stream into a first at least one packet and for converting a second at least one packet into the second data stream, said PAD coupled to the packet network, said PAD having at least one network address; and
- an output means for transmitting a master DSL modem control signal based on a fallback signal carried by the at least one conductor pair.

2. (Withdrawn) The POTS extender of claim 1, wherein the output means further comprises:

- a loop current detector having a connection to the at least one conductor pair, said loop current detector providing the master DSL modem control signal.

3. (Withdrawn) The POTS extender of claim 1 wherein the SLIC further comprises:
a telephony current source;
a switch hook detector; and
a ringing signal source.

4. (Withdrawn) The POTS extender of claim 1 further comprising:
a master DSL modem having at least one network address and connected to the at least one conductor pair.
5. (Withdrawn) The local loop circuit of claim 4 wherein the at least one network address comprises at least one asynchronous transfer mode virtual circuit.
6. (Withdrawn) The POTS extender of claim 1 wherein the at least one network address comprises at least one asynchronous transfer mode virtual circuit.
7. (Previously presented) A DSL suppression circuit for suppressing DSL mode operation on a local loop comprising:
a loop current detector for sensing current drain on the local loop;
a means for providing a suppression signal controllable by said loop current detector;
and
a master DSL modem operative coupled to a subscriber line interference circuit (SLIC), said master DSL modem operating in a quiescent state upon receiving the suppression signal, wherein the SLIC provides power to a subscriber line during the quiescent state.
8. (Original) The DSL suppression circuit of claim 7 wherein the means for providing a suppression signal comprises:
a relay operable on a removal of power to connect a voice conductor pair to the local loop.
9. (Currently amended) A method for providing a customer premise line connection to a DSL modem comprising the steps of:
detecting whether a line has a off-hook condition or an on-hook condition;
energizing a relay to couple ~~the line~~ a subscriber line interference circuit (SLIC) to ~~a~~ the DSL modem, wherein the line ~~has~~ is in said on-hook condition; and

activating switching means for bypassing the DSL modem during a quiescent state upon the DSL modem receiving a suppression signal, wherein the SLIC provides power to the line during the quiescent state.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the step of detecting said off-hook condition comprises the step of sensing current drain.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of booting up a processor.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the step of energizing the relay comprises connecting the DSL modem to a subscriber line.

14. (Previously presented) A DSL suppression circuit for suppressing DSL modem operation on a local loop comprising:

a loop current detector unit configured to sense current drain on the local loop;

a providing unit configured to provide a suppression signal controllable by said loop current detector; and

a master DSL modem unit coupled to a subscriber line interference circuit (SLIC), said master DSL modem being configured to operate in a quiescent state upon receiving the suppression signal, wherein the SLIC is configured to provide power to a subscriber line during the quiescent state.

15. (Previously presented) The DSL suppression circuit of claim 14, wherein the providing unit is further configured operate a relay after a removal of power to connect a voice conductor pair to the local loop.